



THE PROGRESSIVE FARMER.

THE INDUSTRIAL AND EDUCATIONAL INTERESTS OF OUR PEOPLE PARAMOUNT TO ALL OTHER CONSIDERATIONS OF STATE POLICY.

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Agricultural.

OUR FARMERS' CLUBS.

What our Farmers are Doing and How the Work of Organizing is Progressing.

SUCCESSFUL FARMING.—A MODEL SECTION AND A MODEL FARMER.

MR. EDITOR:—In passing through a portion of Randolph county, (Trinity township) a few days ago, I was delighted to see on almost every hand unmistakable evidences of successful farming—and consequently good living—signs that cannot fail to impress and please even the casual observer. Well cultivated farms, good buildings, fine cattle and horses, immense fields of clover and wheat, thrifty and well-kept orchards—these and numerous other signs prove that these people live well and are doing well.

I did not see or hear of a single bale of Western or Northern hay in all this section. I saw and conversed with persons who never saw a piece of Western meat in their lives. They make their own supplies and are therefore free and independent.

Tobacco growing is largely on the increase among these people, and although the land is as well adapted to the cultivation of fine tobacco as any I have seen in North Carolina, it is to be feared that this very extensive tobacco growing will ultimately damage this beautiful section. The first prize at the last State Fair was awarded to tobacco grown one mile west of Trinity College. The present indications point to a large planting of tobacco this season, quite an increase over last year.

On my way lay the residence and farm of Mr. John Dorsett, with whom I took dinner. Every particle of it was home-made and well-made too, and you may be well assured that after our extended walk over the farm my mind was in fine tune for just such an exercise. Mr. Dorsett has nearly 500 acres of land in this farm, 150 acres in cultivation, all the balance heavily timbered.

His buildings are large, are so conveniently arranged as to meet exactly the purposes for which they were intended. Everything has the air of substantial solidity—gate and fence posts are made of iron, cedar and wild locust. The barn is 50x64 feet in the main body, with a shed 67 feet in the rear, and one on the other side 50 feet long. There is a basement under the barn which nicely accommodates 50 or 60 head of cattle. On the North side of the basement are five immense tanks or cisterns, which store up an abundant supply of good water for all his stock. Under one of these sheds is a large watering trough, connected with the tanks by pipes, so there is a constant flow of water, but so arranged that the overflow passes off outside of the barn. Everything is neat and in good order.

Mr. Dorsett has a wide diversity of crops, but lays rather more stress upon wheat, oats, cattle, clover and the hay crop. He has about 42 acres in wheat this season, and it is undoubtedly the finest wheat I ever saw anywhere. He claims that it will thresh out forty bushels to the acre all through, and I do not think he is "over-sighted" in his estimate. Every stump and rock that would be in the way of his self-binding reaper, has been removed. He sows no other variety but the Fultz and I failed to see a single head of rye, barley or other variety of wheat scattered about among crops. This is getting up to a sublime height in wheat growing.

Mr. Dorsett has a magnificent herd of 38 Jersey cattle that would do credit to any man or any section. He has accumulated quite a nice property alone by farming.

I am fully satisfied, Mr. Editor, that good farming will pay. I saw other very successfully worked farms and you may again hear from RANDOLPH.

SANDY RIDGE FARMERS' CLUB.

The farmers of the vicinity of Marvin Chapel met Saturday, May 15th, 1886, at 2 o'clock p. m., for the purpose of organizing a farmers' club. After a very interesting speech from Col. L. L. Polk, editor of THE PROGRESSIVE FARMER, a club of 33 members was organized. The following is the list of members of the club:

J. H. Reich, President; W. J. Peace, Vice-President; J. L. Armfield, Secretary and Treasurer; P. A. Cox, Z. G. Hage, Isaac Reich, C. T. Whicker, S. L. Kiger, M. H. Ogburn, Wm. Kapp, J. H. Cox, J. W. Alspaugh, A. A. Styr, J. A. Tesh, C. H. Hauser, A. J. Hauser, J. W. Ogburn, J. E. Cox, W. H. Cox, Samuel Reich, W. A. Alspaugh, J. T. Cox, E. J. Banner, L. T. Hines, J. A. Shamel, R. L. Tally, J. H. Shamel, J. A. Crews, R. A. Tally, R. H. Crews, N. J. Tally, L. M. Reich, R. W. Ogburn.

Executive Committee.—Col. J. W. Alspaugh, J. H. Cox, M. H. Ogburn. The regular meetings of the club will be held at Marvin the first Saturday in each month at 2 o'clock, p. m. The harmony and unanimity of feeling that prevailed is most encouraging. We expect to add quite a number to our list at our next meeting. J. L. ARMFIELD, Secretary.

FARMERS' UNION CLUB.

Osgood, N. C., May 8, '86.

EDITOR PROGRESSIVE FARMER.—The farmers of Cape Fear and Oakland township met at Osgood, Saturday evening, May 8th, at 2 o'clock and had a very enjoyable time. Vice-President R. W. Womack, who occupied the chair, called the house to order, about twenty members being present.

The Secretary read the constitution and by-laws published in THE PROGRESSIVE FARMER, which was unanimously adopted by the club.

Capt. J. P. Bodderas, B. W. Brown, J. D. Moore, Calvin Ledbetter and Calvin Watson compose the executive committee. Short speeches were made by Messrs. Brantley, Brown, Bodderas and J. C. McEllington. The subjects for discussion at next meeting are "Corn, Cotton and Tobacco Culture."

We expect a general turn out of farmers at the next meeting. Two members were added to-day. We hear that thirty more farmers will apply for membership at the next meeting, the second Saturday in June, at 2 p. m. All are taking a lively interest in the work and are looking forward for better times. XX.

THE MOVEMENT AT TYRO.

On Saturday, the 8th, we had the pleasure of meeting many of the substantial citizens of the vicinity of Tyro, in Davidson county. They laid the ground work for organizing a first-class farmers' club, by enrolling 37 names. They were to meet on the 15th to perfect their organization. We were indebted to Mr. J. Thompson, of Lexington, and Dr. Julian for the pleasure of a ride of 18 miles through as fine and prosperous community as can be found in any section of the State. We shall long remember the kindly greetings of our friends at Tyro.

We learn that the good people in the vicinity of Walnut Cove, contemplate having a grand gathering in the interest of agriculture, at an early day. And thus the good work goes on.

Spanish Grove club wants a public meeting soon, to bring before the people the importance and necessity for organization.

By an error the name of the Secretary of the Spanish Grove Club appeared in last issue as E. C. Dove. It should be E. C. Dull. The club meets again next Saturday, and is strongly in favor of organizing a county club.

Applications for the form of Constitution and By-Laws, issued by THE PROGRESSIVE FARMER, for organizing Farmers' Clubs, are continually coming in, and from all quarters of the State. We will gladly mail it to our friends. There should be at least one thousand well organized clubs in our State.

IN STOKES COUNTY.

There will be a meeting of the farmers in this county in Danbury the first Monday in June to take steps to organize farmers' clubs in every township of Stokes to meet monthly, and a county club to meet three times a year during court time.—Danbury Reporter.

CAMPBELL FARMERS' CLUB.

The farmers of this vicinity met at Campbell's on Saturday the 8th inst. and organized a farmers' club. Thirty names were enrolled and a constitution and by-laws were adopted. The following named gentlemen were elected officers: W. R. Hylton, President; W. S. Watkins, vice-President; W. F. Campbell, Secretary; J. F. Shepherd, Treasurer. Our regular meetings will be held on the second Saturday in each month. W. F. CAMPBELL, Sec'y. Campbell, Stokes Co., N. C.

We see by the Wadesboro Intelligencer that "Farmers' Club No. 10" has been organized in Anson county.

THE WAY THEY DO IN PENNSYLVANIA.

The farmers and grangers of Pennsylvania are presenting the claims of one of their number, Mr. R. H. Thomas, for the office of Lieutenant Governor of that great State. He is editor-in-chief of The Farmer's Friend and Granger's Advocate, which, for thirteen years, has been one of the staunchest farmers' journals published in this country. He is also manager of the great annual meeting of the farmers of that State, which is held at Williams' Grove, and which is now known throughout the land as one of the most successful of all the fairs held in this country. At a large meeting of the farmers held at Mechanicsburg on the 13th inst. the following, among other resolutions, was unanimously adopted:

"Resolved, That as farmers, we pledge him our united support, in the interest of the cause of agriculture, and urge upon our brother farmers throughout the State the duty of standing up for one who has always advocated the equal and just rights of all classes."

A FELINE STORY.

Mr. S. E. Penland informs us of one of those caprices which confuse observers with suggestions of the millenium. He says at Mr. Walter Sorrells' is a cat who is the mother of one lone kitten. Some days ago Mr. Sorrells brought home two young English rabbits; very watchful he was lest they might make a meal for the feline family. But the cat found their whereabouts. The cup of her affections was not filled with one kitten; and the infantile rabbits were adopted into the family, and they all constitute now a "happy family," the wonder of the human household.—Asheville Citizen.

THE CROPS IN GRANVILLE COUNTY.

A well-informed farmer of Granville county writes us that wheat in that county is not average good, while the acreage in grass is greatly enlarged, and clover twenty times increase. Oats, spring sowing, is very fine, but the acreage of tobacco has been diminished. The policy of the farmer is to make the farm self-supporting, a departure in the right direction.

State Items.

—There are 31 prisoners in jail. Of these 17 are United States prisoners.—Statesville Landmark.

—A large amount of steel rails for the C. F. & Y. V. R. R. has arrived at Greensboro and the work of track laying is being vigorously pushed.

—Frank Gaston, negro, convicted at Rowan court of assault upon a white female inmate of the poorhouse, will be hanged at Salisbury June 4th.

—Mr. Jas. Thompson is 90 years old. Frequently he rides horseback to Dimock's mill. Mr. Clark, the clever miller, says that Mr. Thompson is the oldest "mill boy" that he knows of.—Hillsboro Observer.

—Mr. W. L. Burroughs, of Granville county, who has been on a tour in California searching for a brother living in that State, succeeded in his search after a travel of some 4,500 miles, and was here yesterday on his way home.—Greensboro Workman.

—In the section north of Whitaker's mill, and generally around our town, the outlook at this writing for a good crop is magnificent. With the exception of the oat crop—which in some localities is almost a failure—the prospect is all that can be desired.—Battleboro Headlight.

—At Whitaker's Mill on Wednesday night of last week two negro women had a dispute which resulted in the death of one at the hands of the other by a knife. The slayer is in Nashville jail to await her trial.—Tar River Talker.

—The farmers report that the fine weather of the past few days has brought out the crops wonderfully well. Cotton is up and growing finely, though the season is several weeks later than usual, and corn is beginning to make green rows.—Charlotte Observer.

—From all sections we hear good reports of the growing crops of all kinds. Small grain is doing splendidly so far, and the prospect at present for a large yield is very encouraging. Good rains last week, and warm weather this week, is making vegetation pop ahead wonderfully.—Charlotte Democrat.

—The headquarters' flag which was shown on the stage at Metropolitan hall during the memorial exercises was brought here from Appomattox by Mr. Sherwood Badger. He brought it wrapped around his body, under his clothing.—Raleigh News.

—Wilson ships 3,000 quarts of strawberries per day.—We learn that seventeen persons joined the Disciples church during the recent meeting.—The total number of convicts is now over 1,200. About 390 are in the penitentiary; the others are at work on five railways, at one quarry, and on two farms.—Wilson Mirror.

—A destructive hail storm swept over a portion of Guilford and Alamance counties on 13th inst., reaching near Durham. Considerable damage was done to crops. The roof was blown off Lawrence Holt's factory near Company Shops, and 1500 window lights were broken in James Holt's factory.

—The best farmer in this country is the one who makes his home supplies at home and does not risk all on any one crop.—Some of our farmers have planted a large proportion of their tobacco crop.—The fruit in this county is uninjured as far as we have heard, and there is every indication that there will be as large a yield as last year, notwithstanding the saying that two full fruit crops never come upon successive years.—It is estimated that the work required to grow 100 lbs. of tobacco on new ground worth in many cases not more than \$5, will produce 25 bushels of corn, which is worth almost any year \$25.00, yet many people say that tobacco is the only money crop.—Danbury Reporter.

—Again this year the wheat crop will be very light. A subscriber told us Monday that the prospect in his township (Morton's) was the poorest he had ever known.—Mr. W. E. Holt, of this county, and Mr. C. A. Hunt, of Lexington, are building a cotton mill at the latter place. The building will 50x210 feet and two stories high.—Alamance Gleaner.

—Mr. R. S. Kennerly, of Barringer's township, has a turkey gobbler which, on Wednesday of last week, began setting on a nest full of eggs. To drive him off does no good, for he at once returns and resumes business at the old stand. While the gobbler is doing the hen's work, the hen that laid the eggs is strutting around the place like a gobbler.—Landmark.

—Jonesville, N. C., has an absent-minded citizen. Two mornings in succession after milking the cow, he set the pail of milk in a corner and carried the milking stool into the house. On the third morning he took a basket of turnips to the cow, emptied them before her, and then began to milk in the basket. He had presence enough of mind to stop when about half through milking.—Wilmington Review.

—The North Carolina State Dental Association will meet in Raleigh on the first of June, the session to last three days.—A lady gave birth to twins in Limestone township, this county, last Sunday—the twins weighing respectively one pound and one and a half pounds. The boy lived three days and the girl was living at last accounts, she having been the heavier weight of the two.—Asheville Citizen.

—The fine cherries which were brought in to us in a ripe state on Wednesday, we have ascertained to-day, are earlier than the earliest varieties anywhere known now, and Mr. Mac Branch, the owner, has gone into an agreement with Mr. Westbrook by which the variety will be at once numerously budded into other stocks.—Fayetteville News.

—The Gold Hill mine is the largest in the State. One shaft is 750 feet deep.—Mrs. Agnes Archibald, of Flow's, is 95 years old, and can hear and see as well as she ever could. She is almost as cheerful and active as she was fifty years ago.—Cotton has been injured some by the late cold rain. The stalk would turn black near the ground and soon rot off. In some places there is not a good stand.—Concord Times.

—Sheriff Boyer turned over to the State Treasurer \$12,233.64 in State tax, and to County Treasurer Cox, \$13,642.50, school tax.—There is a kind of ugly bug that infests the shade trees in most yards, and young chickens devour them voraciously; and some who have lost many young chickens have found by examination that these bugs are the cause of their death. It is well to try to keep young chickens away from them.—Joseph Mendenhall, of Davidson county, killed a bed of tobacco plants by putting strong stable manure in water and then sprinkling this liquid manure on the plants.—Jonathan Jones killed a bed of plants by sprinkling fertilizer on them. They are tender and should be treated with care.—We hear much complaint that watermelon seed do not come up well, and that the insects destroy the plants of those which do come. We have been told that those which are planted with fertilizer in the hills are not disturbed by insects very badly.—Salem Press.

—Prof. Low, of Cornell University, examined the milk from cows that had access to water from stagnant pools and found it full of living organisms. The cows were in a feverish condition owing to their blood being charged with this living animalculæ.